**VERMONT PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**LEVEL 4 INFORMATION LETTER TERM 1 2013**

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We look forward to working with you and your child/ren in 2013. At the beginning of the school year we have decided to send home a communication letter at the beginning of the school year to inform you of some of the day to day procedures for the children in Level 4. We will not be sending regular communication letters home, but will update the Level 4 wiki regularly so that you can stay informed of important dates, homework and notices. Please be aware that you **DO NOT** need any password to access the wiki.

[**http://level4vps.wikispaces.com**](http://level4vps.wikispaces.com)

**HOMEWORK**

Homework is given out on a Monday and the children have 10 days to complete it. It is therefore due on Thursday of the following week. They are expected to complete the homework in their homework books and fill in a reading log for the 10 days. Generally, 10 reading entries are expected. We ask that you sign these each homework period and also sign their homework book. The children are given a score out of 10 and once they reach a total of 50 points, they are allowed to have a free 10 day period of no homework. However, they are still expected to read. We understand that some children have a busy schedule outside of school with sporting commitments or extra-curricular activities. This is the purpose for the homework being stretched over 10 days. If there are circumstances where your child is unable to complete the homework, for example, a death or extreme illness, please communicate this directly with your child’s teacher. Sports training, birthday parties, sleep overs etc are unacceptable excuses for not completing homework on time.

**BEHAVIOUR**

The children have written a list of expected behaviours at school and consequences for breaking school rules. Each child has a Demerit Point card whereby 10 points are allocated at the beginning of the year and when a child breaks a rule or displays inappropriate behaviour, points will be deducted. If all points are lost, parents will be contacted. Then children will miss out on some or all excursions, incursions, Level 4 sport, be taken off the yard, will be working in Mrs Cook or Mrs Stickland’s office or will be asked to write apology letters. These are just some of the consequences that may be given.

We ask that you support your child’s teacher by discussing appropriate behaviour at school.

**NOTICES**

You will find a constant stream of notices being sent home within the first few weeks of the year. Please be aware that these need to be returned **2 days before** any activity. Teachers are not able to call parents for verbal permission because legally we must have a permission form signed. Your child will miss out on any activity if forms are not returned. It is imperative that medical forms for camp be returned as soon as possible. A lot of work goes into the organisation of activities for your child/ren so your cooperation is appreciated.

**CAMP**

Information will be sent shortly regarding camp requirements. This is an amazing camp and many children have said that it is the best camp they have attended. Please discuss with your child appropriate behaviour because it assists with camp running as smoothly as possible. Camp runs for 3 days, 2 nights and children are able to have free exploration time on the first day of camp. They are allowed to bring some spending money but this is at their own responsibility. Souvenirs are inexpensive so $20 maximum is sufficient. All food is supplied except for the first day of camp where they will need to bring their lunch with them. Please make sure you fill in the camp forms thoroughly and inform us of allergies or foods that cannot be eaten for religious reasons **ONLY.** Do not make a list of foods your child does not like to eat.

**DIARIES**

This year students will be using their diaries more often. Each time they have an Individual Learning Meeting with their teacher, they will be required to write their goal in their diaries and get is signed by a parent. Please assist us in getting the students in the routine of having their diary at school each day.

**STAFF**

Georgina Simmons, Paul Souter and John Hoskin are the Year 5 teachers for 2013. Gillian Prentice, Peta Jenkin and Russell Hall are the Year 6 teachers for 2013. Should you have any queries regarding your child please go directly to your child’s teacher. We are all very approachable people and are happy to discuss things with you but ask that you make a time to do so as we have a lot of meetings after school, before school and some of us have yard duty before or after school.

**INTERVIEWS**

You will be offered an opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher in Term 1 to share any information you feel necessary about your child. Formal interviews will be conducted in Term 3 where you will discuss your child’s learning.

We look forward to meeting you over the coming weeks if we have not already. We thank you in advance for you cooperation and support.

Level 4 Teaching Team

Gillian Prentice, Georgina Simmons, Peta Jenkin, Russell Hall, Paul Souter, John Hoskin